carry out construction etc. for approval. Notices are issued under Section 185 of the Act to such persons who undertake construction without proper sanction. The Cantonment Board authorities have not demolished any old houses in the vicinity.

(d) No provision exists either in the Building Bye-Laws of Morar Cantonment or the Cantonments Act, 1924 to sanction layout plan by the Cantonment Board.

Increasing the strength of Rashtriya Rifles

2409. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Qovernment has increased the strength of Rashtriya Rifles by adding 13 battalions to counter insurgents and check infiltration;

(b) whether residents of some villages along the borders are being shifted elsewhere;

(c) whether modern sophisticated weapons have been given to Rashtriya Rifles personnel to face infiltrations effectively; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) the strength of Rashtriya Rifles has been increased by 18 battalions since the year 2000-2001.

(b) There is no such proposal regarding the international border.

(c) and (d) Rashtriya Rifles has been provided with modern weapons and equipment like multi grenade launcher, hand held thermal imagers, counter-improvised explosive device etc. to improve the effectiveness of the force in countering infiltration from across the borders and in their counter insurgency role. Modernisation and force equipping is an ongoing process.

Induction of TEJAS

2410. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently TEJAS, developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency, has been tested successfully;